Perfume manufacturing units

740. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:
SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of perfume manufacturing units in the country;

(b) the problems being faced by such units; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to solve those problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S ELANGOVAN): (a) Perfume manufacturing units in India are around 250 Nos.

(b) Government has not received any representation regarding their problems.

(c) Does not arise.

Trade with US

741. SHRI DARA SINGH:
SHRI S.ANBALAGAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that our current level of trade with the United States stand at $21 billion which is far below potential;

(b) whether any fruitful talks in this regard were held recently with the visiting US trade representative Rob Portman particularly with regard to removal of non-tariff barriers on Indian products by the US; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when reported target of $40 billion is likely to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. As per the statistics of US Department of Commerce, India's Exports to US during the calendar year 2004 were US $15.5 billion. US exports to India during the same period were US$6.1 billion. The two way trade between the two countries for the calendar year 2004 was US $21.68 billion.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. During the recent India-US Trade Policy Forum

Meeting, held in New Delhi on 12th November 2005, several issues of concern to both sides were discussed. These *inter-alia* included the various non-tariff barriers faced by Indian Products in the US market. The two sides have agreed to establish Focus Groups in different areas including on tariff/non-tariff barriers/services that will meet on a regular basis. A doubling of bilateral trade in about three years time was also discussed.

Rice Export

742**.** SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of rice exported during the last three years, with Basmati and non-Basmati rice separately;

(b) the steps taken to improve export of rice, Non-Basmati rice in particular; and

(c) the target fixed for export of rice during the Tenth Plan period and the steps taken to achieve that?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The quantity of rice exported during the last three years are as under:—

(Quantity in tonnes)

Year	Basmati Rice	Non-Basmati Rice
2002-03	708793	4259077
2003-04	771491	2640572
2004-05	1126125	3645873

Source: OGCI&S

(b) The steps taken to improve export of rice include providing assistance to Indian exporters for undertaking publicity campaigns, mounting trade delegations abroad, participation in International fairs, buyer-seller meets and financial assistance to exporters for improving quality, packaging, brand promotion of products, conducting market surveys and reimbursement of certain WTO admissible costs on account of marketing and transport.

(c) Exports being dependent on a host of factors, including external, no targets as such are or can be fixed.